United Nations A/64/L.42

General Assembly

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20 January 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 70 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Japan, Kazakhstan, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Uruguay: draft resolution

Humanitarian assistance, emergency relief and rehabilitation for Haiti in response to the devastating effects of the earthquake in that country

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council, including Council resolution 2008/36 of 25 July 2008,

Expressing sincere condolences and deep sympathy for the victims, their families and the Government and the people of Haiti who suffered huge losses of life and socio-economic damage from the earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010,

Conscious of the huge losses of human life and the large number of people who were wounded and people whose suffering from the health impact of the disaster is severe,

Conscious also of the huge material losses sustained in respect of homes and basic infrastructures in the capital, Port-au-Prince, and elsewhere in the country and expressing concern over the medium- and long-term social, economic and development impacts of the disaster on the affected country,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Government of Haiti, despite the losses it has suffered, to protect the lives of its nationals and to rapidly assist the affected population, and recognizing with deep appreciation the immediate emergency relief assistance and rescue operations provided on the ground by the United Nations

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Stabilization Mission in Haiti and the United Nations system, as well as by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and civil society,

Welcoming the leadership of the Secretary-General in ensuring a speedy response by the United Nations system to the tragic events, and commending the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for its coordinating role in supporting the Government of Haiti in ensuring a coherent international response to the emergency,

Welcoming also the efforts of the United Nations Special Envoy for Haiti to mobilize international support for emergency relief operations, as well as of the resident Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Country Coordinator for Haiti,

Commending the prompt response, support, generous contributions and assistance provided by Member States, the international community, civil society, the private sector and individuals to the emergency relief and response to the impacts of the disaster,

Reiterating the need for a continued high level of support for and commitment to the immediate humanitarian relief phase, early recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts, including in the medium and long terms, that reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation in addressing the disaster,

Noting the enormous effort and solidarity of the international community, reflecting the importance of the fullest coordinated response and taking into account the national development priorities of Haiti, that will be required to rebuild the affected areas in order to alleviate the grave situation arising from this natural disaster,

Reiterating the need for the United Nations system to respond swiftly to requests for assistance by the affected country and to ensure that the humanitarian assistance provided is timely, adequate, effective and coherent and coordinated among all development actors, in particular the Government of Haiti, and is in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

1. *Expresses its solidarity and support* to the Government and people of Haiti as well as to all Member States that have lost nationals in this catastrophe;

2. *Pays special tribute* to all the staff members of the United Nations and international peacekeepers who have given their lives in the line of duty, and encourages continued search-and-rescue operations for all people still unaccounted for,

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the members of the international community that have offered their prompt and generous support to the rescue efforts and emergency assistance for the affected population;

4. *Appeals* to all Member States and all relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the international financial institutions and development agencies, to provide speedy, sustainable and adequate support for the relief, early recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts of Haiti,

5. *Calls upon* the international community to provide assistance, at the earliest, in response to the United Nations flash appeal for Haiti, launched on 15 January 2010, and supports the overall coordinating role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in assisting the Government of Haiti in ensuring a coherent international response to the humanitarian emergency in Haiti;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the international financial institutions and development agencies, to assist Haiti, whenever possible, through continued effective humanitarian, technical and financial assistance that contributes to overcoming the emergency and achieving the rehabilitation and recovery of the economy and the affected population, in conformity with the priorities identified at the national level;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to consult with Member States, relevant United Nations organs and bodies, including the Peacebuilding Commission and the Economic and Social Council, regarding ways to achieve enhanced coordination of reconstruction and development efforts in Haiti;

8. *Requests* the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to increase their support and assistance in strengthening the disaster-preparedness capacity of Haiti, as well as reducing its vulnerability to natural disasters, and in integrating disaster risk reduction in its development strategies and programmes, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015;[1]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep Member States regularly informed on the humanitarian assistance efforts in Haiti and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of the affected country under the sub-item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations".

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[1] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 70 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Japan, Kazakhstan, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain and Uruguay: draft resolution

Humanitarian assistance, emergency relief and rehabilitation for Haiti in response to the devastating effects of the earthquake in that country

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council, including Council resolution 2008/36 of 25 July 2008,

Expressing sincere condolences and deep sympathy for the victims, their families and the Government and the people of Haiti who suffered huge losses of life and socio-economic damage from the earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010,

Conscious of the huge losses of human life and the large number of people who were wounded and people whose suffering from the health impact of the disaster is severe,

Conscious also of the huge material losses sustained in respect of homes and basic infrastructures in the capital, Port-au-Prince, and elsewhere in the country and expressing concern over the medium- and long-term social, economic and development impacts of the disaster on the affected country,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Government of Haiti, despite the losses it has suffered, to protect the lives of its nationals and to rapidly assist the affected

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population, and recognizing with deep appreciation the immediate emergency relief assistance and rescue operations provided on the ground by the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and the United Nations system, as well as by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and civil society,

Welcoming the leadership of the Secretary-General in ensuring a speedy response by the United Nations system to the tragic events, and commending the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for its coordinating role in supporting the Government of Haiti in ensuring a coherent international response to the emergency,

Welcoming also the efforts of the United Nations Special Envoy for Haiti to mobilize international support for emergency relief operations, as well as of the resident Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Country Coordinator for Haiti,

Commending the prompt response, support, generous contributions and assistance provided by Member States, the international community, civil society, the private sector and individuals to the emergency relief and response to the impacts of the disaster,

Reiterating the need for a continued high level of support for and commitment to the immediate humanitarian relief phase, early recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts, including in the medium and long terms, that reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation in addressing the disaster,

Noting the enormous effort and solidarity of the international community, reflecting the importance of the fullest coordinated response and taking into account the national development priorities of Haiti, that will be required to rebuild the affected areas in order to alleviate the grave situation arising from this natural disaster,

Reiterating the need for the United Nations system to respond swiftly to requests for assistance by the affected country and to ensure that the humanitarian assistance provided is timely, adequate, effective and coherent and coordinated among all development actors, in particular the Government of Haiti, and is in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

1. *Expresses its solidarity and support* to the Government and people of Haiti as well as to all Member States that have lost nationals in this catastrophe;

2. *Pays special tribute* to all the staff members of the United Nations and international peacekeepers who have given their lives in the line of duty, and encourages continued search-and-rescue operations for all people still unaccounted for;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the members of the international community that have offered their prompt and generous support to the rescue efforts and emergency assistance for the affected population;

4. *Appeals* to all Member States and all relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the international financial institutions and development agencies, to provide speedy, sustainable and adequate support for the

relief, early recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts of Haiti;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to provide assistance, at the earliest, in response to the United Nations flash appeal for Haiti, launched on 15 January 2010, and supports the overall coordinating role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in assisting the Government of Haiti in ensuring a coherent international response to the humanitarian emergency in Haiti;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the international financial institutions and development agencies, to assist Haiti, whenever possible, through continued effective humanitarian, technical and financial assistance that contributes to overcoming the emergency and achieving the rehabilitation and recovery of the economy and the affected population, in conformity with the priorities identified at the national level;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to consult with Member States, relevant United Nations organs and bodies, including the Peacebuilding Commission and the Economic and Social Council, regarding ways to achieve enhanced coordination of reconstruction and development efforts in Haiti;

8. *Requests* the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to increase their support and assistance in strengthening the disaster-preparedness capacity of Haiti, as well as reducing its vulnerability to natural disasters, and in integrating disaster risk reduction in its development strategies and programmes, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015;[1]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep Member States regularly informed on the humanitarian assistance efforts in Haiti and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of the affected country under the sub-item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations".

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[1] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
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Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Japan, Kazakhstan, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain and Uruguay: draft resolution

Humanitarian assistance, emergency relief and rehabilitation for Haiti in response to the devastating effects of the earthquake in that country

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia

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General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 70 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Sudan:* draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration,[1] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[2] and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,[3] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Noting with appreciation the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Geneva from 16 to 18 June 2009, taking note of the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[2] Ibid., resolution 2.

[3] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

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2009 *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, and looking forward to the forthcoming Hyogo Framework for Action mid-term review,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness, response and early recovery efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity to deal with the consequences of natural disasters, given the effects of global challenges, including the impact of climate change, the global financial and economic crisis, and the humanitarian implications of the global food crisis,

Also expressing its deep concern that rural and urban poor communities in the developing world are the hardest hit by the effects of increased disaster risk,

Acknowledging the impacts of rapid urbanization in the context of natural disasters and that urban disaster preparedness and responses require appropriate disaster risk reduction strategies, including in urban planning, early recovery strategies implemented from the initial stage of relief operations, as well as rehabilitation and development strategies,

Noting that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, response and recovery, and acknowledging the need to support efforts of Member States to develop and enhance national and local capacities which are fundamental to improving the overall delivery of humanitarian assistance,

Recognizing the high numbers of persons affected by natural disasters, including in this respect internally displaced persons, and the need to address the humanitarian needs arising from internal displacement throughout the world owing to sudden-onset natural disasters,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, in particular in preparedness, response and the early recovery phase, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

Recognizing the progress the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) has made in its mission, encouraging Member States to provide all support necessary, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out its workplan for 2010-2011, and reiterating the importance of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and by facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Noting with appreciation the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

Emphasizing the importance of addressing vulnerability and integrating risk reduction into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning,

Recognizing that efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be adversely affected by natural disasters, and noting the positive contribution that those efforts can make in strengthening the resilience of populations to such disasters,

Emphasizing, in this context, the important role of development organizations in supporting national efforts to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* States to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration[1] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[2] in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to accelerate the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and emphasizes the promotion and strengthening of disaster preparedness activities at all levels, in particular in hazard-prone areas, and encourages them to increase funding and cooperation for disaster risk reduction activities, including disaster preparedness;

5. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;

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[4] A/64/331.

6. *Acknowledges* that global climate change, among other factors, contributes to the increase in intensity and frequency of natural disasters, which amplify natural disaster risk, and in this regard encourages Member States, as well as relevant regional and international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including through the provision of technology and support for capacity-building in developing countries;

7. *Welcomes* the initiatives at the regional and national levels related to the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, and encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to take further steps to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines adopted at the Thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 November 2007;

8. *Also welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and, as appropriate, other relevant organizations, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and civil society, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

9. *Reiterates* the commitment to support, as a matter of priority, the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

10. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with priority five of the Hyogo Framework for Action, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard;

11. *Encourages* Member States to consider elaborating and presenting to the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat their national platforms for disaster reduction in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action, and also encourages States to cooperate with each other to reach this objective;

12. *Stresses* that to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

13. *Also stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases

of a disaster, from relief and recovery to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

14. *Encourages* all Member States to facilitate, to the extent possible, the transit of emergency humanitarian assistance and development assistance, provided in the context of international efforts, including in the phase from relief to development, in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 46/182 and the annex thereto, and in full respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law;

15. *Recognizes* the goals and purposes for which the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities was established following resolution 46/182, takes note with concern of the findings of the independent review of the Register carried out in 2009, and requests the Secretary-General to provide recommendations on possible measures to address those findings, including on the structure and format of the Register;

16. *Reaffirms* the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for advocacy for and coordination of humanitarian assistance among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

17. *Welcomes*, so as to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, the incorporation of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters into the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system, and the work of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group in assisting such countries in strengthening urban search and rescue capacities and establishing mechanisms for improving their coordination of national and international response in the field, and recalls in this regard its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance";

18. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to consider the specific and differentiated consequences of natural disasters both in rural and urban areas when designing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, humanitarian assistance and early recovery strategies, giving special emphasis to addressing the needs of those living in rural and urban poor areas prone to natural disasters;

19. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunication technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunication capacities, and encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed, including in the recovery phase;

20. *Encourages* States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations,[5] to consider doing so;

21. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies, including as provided by UN-SPIDER, as well as the sharing

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

of geographical data, for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate, and invites Member States to continue to provide their support to the consolidation of the United Nations capability in the area of satellite-derived geographical information for early warning, preparedness, response and early recovery;

22. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

23. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to support national initiatives that address the possible differentiated impacts of natural disasters on the affected population, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age and disability, using, inter alia, the existing information provided by States;

24. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery strategies and, in this regard, notes the recommendations of the International Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Beijing from 20 to 22 April 2009;

25. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale up successful local initiatives, as appropriate;

26. *Requests* the United Nations system to improve its coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster recovery, in support of national authorities;

27. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations to continue efforts to ensure continuity and predictability in their response and to further improve coordination in recovery processes in support of the efforts of national authorities;

28. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to improve the dissemination of tools and services to support enhanced disaster risk reduction;

29. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are integrated in the planning and implementation of disaster preparedness, humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate;

30. *Acknowledges* that early recovery should receive further funding, and encourages the provision of timely, flexible and predictable funding for early recovery, including through established humanitarian instruments;

31. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to support humanitarian coordinators and resident coordinators, in order to strengthen their capacity, inter alia, to support the host Government in implementing preparedness measures and to coordinate preparedness activities of country teams in support of national efforts, and also encourages the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to further strengthen the ability to quickly and flexibly deploy humanitarian professionals to support Governments and country teams in the immediate aftermath of a disaster;

32. *Emphasizes* the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for recovery, preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities in order to ensure predictable and timely access to resources for humanitarian assistance in emergencies resulting from disasters associated with natural hazards;

33. *Welcomes* the achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund and its contribution to the promotion and enhancement of early humanitarian response, calls upon all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider increasing voluntary contributions to the Fund, including, when possible, through multi-year and early commitments, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

34. *Invites* Member States, the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider voluntary contributions to other humanitarian funding mechanisms;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, and to include in his report recommendations on how to improve actions for identifying and addressing the gaps from relief to development, within the United Nations system and at the national level, including in the area of durable and sustainable solutions, particularly in rehabilitation and reconstruction.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 46
Global road safety crisis

Russian Federation: draft resolution

Improving global road safety

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57/309 of 22 May 2003, 58/9 of 5 November 2003, 58/289 of 14 April 2004, 60/5 of 26 October 2005 and 62/244 of 31 March 2008 on improving global road safety,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on improving global road safety and the recommendations contained therein,[1]

Recognizing the tremendous global burden of mortality resulting from road traffic crashes, as well as the twenty to fifty million people who incur each year non-fatal road traffic injuries, many of whom are left with lifelong disabilities,

Noting that this major but neglected public health problem has a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, will constrain the ability of Member States to fully attain the Millennium Development Goals,

Underlining the importance for Member States to continue using the *World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention* as a framework for road safety efforts and implementing its recommendations by paying particular attention to five of the main risk factors identified, namely, the non-use of safety belts and child restraints, the non-use of helmets, drinking and driving, in appropriate and excessive speed and the lack of appropriate infrastructure, and by strengthening road safety management and paying particular attention also to the needs of vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists, and users of unsafe public transport, and improving post-crash care for victims of road crashes,

Commending the World Health Organization for its role in implementing the mandate conferred upon it by the General Assembly to work with the United Nations regional commissions to coordinate road safety issues within the United Nations system, and the progress of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

[1] A/64/266.

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as a coordination mechanism whose members provide Governments and civil society with good practice guidelines to support action to tackle the major road safety risk factors and support their implementation,

Recognizing the work of the United Nations regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies in increasing their road safety activities and advocating increased political commitment to road safety,

Noting the important role of the World Bank Global Road Safety Facility as a funding mechanism to support capacity-building and provide technical support for road safety and as a means to increase the resources needed to address road safety in low-income and middle-income countries, acknowledging the increase in funding to support national, regional and global road safety work, and welcoming, in particular, the financial assistance given by Bloomberg Philanthropies and the FIA Foundation for the Automobile and Society,

Taking note of the report of the Commission for Global Road Safety, *Make Roads Safe: A New Priority for Sustainable Development*, which links road safety with sustainable development and calls for a decade of action on road safety, and the "Make Roads Safe" campaign as a global tool for increasing awareness and advocating increased funding for road safety,

Recognizing the publication of the World Health Organization, *Global Status Report on Road Safety*, which provides the first assessment of the road safety situation at a global level and highlights that half of all road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users, as well as the relatively low proportion of the countries in the world that have comprehensive legislation on key road safety risk factors,

Welcoming a number of other important international efforts on road safety, including the report of the International Transport Forum and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development entitled *Towards zero: Ambitious Road Safety Targets and the Safe System Approach*, and the project implemented by the United Nations regional commissions, on the theme "Improving global road safety: setting regional and national road traffic casualty reduction targets",

Welcoming also the joint statement from the World Bank and the six leading multilateral development banks, namely, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Islamic Development Bank, to cooperate on increasing the road safety component of their infrastructure programmes through better coordination of their investments and through the application of safety audits and assessments of road infrastructure projects,

Expressing its concern at the continued increase in road traffic fatalities and injuries worldwide, in particular in low-income and middle-income countries,

Reaffirming the need for the further strengthening of international cooperation and knowledge-sharing in road safety, taking into account the needs of low-income and middle-income countries,

Recognizing the role of research in informing policy-based decisions on road safety and in monitoring and evaluating the effect of interventions, as well as the

need for more research to address the emerging issue of driver distraction as a risk factor for road traffic crashes,

Taking note of all national and regional initiatives to raise awareness of road safety issues,

Acknowledging the leading role of Oman in drawing the attention of the international community to the global road safety crisis,

Commending the Government of the Russian Federation for hosting the First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Time for Action, held in Moscow in November 2009, which brought together delegations of ministers and representatives dealing with transport, health, education, safety and related traffic law enforcement issues and which culminated in a declaration calling for a decade of action for road safety,

1. *Welcomes* the declaration adopted at the First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Time for Action, held in Moscow, on 19 and 20 November 2009;[2]

2. *Proclaims* the period 2011-2020 as the Decade of Action for Road Safety, with a goal to stabilize and then reduce the forecast level of road traffic fatalities around the world by increasing activities conducted at the national, regional and global levels;

3. *Requests* the World Health Organization, in consultation with the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration and other stakeholders, to finalize the Plan of Action of the Decade as a guiding document to support the implementation of its objectives;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of addressing global road safety issues and the need for the further strengthening of international cooperation, taking into account the needs of low-income and middle-income countries by building capacities in the field of road safety and providing financial and technical support for their efforts;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to implement road safety activities, particularly in the areas of road safety management, road infrastructure, vehicle safety, road user behaviour, road safety education and post-crash care, including rehabilitation for people with disabilities, based on the Plan of Action;

6. *Invites* all Member States, particularly low-income and middle-income countries to set their own national road traffic casualty reduction targets to be achieved by the end of the Decade, in line with the Plan of Action;

7. *Invites* Governments to take a leading role in implementing the activities of the Decade, while fostering a multisectoral collaboration of efforts that includes the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, including victims' organizations and youth organizations, and the media;

8. *Invites* Member States, international organizations, development banks and funding agencies, foundations and private sector companies to provide adequate resources and consider increasing funding allocated to activities relating to the Decade;

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[2] A/64/540, annex.

9. *Requests* the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration to serve as the international coordination mechanism for the implementation of activities relating to the Decade, including the human and financial resources necessary to effectively execute that role;

10. *Invites* the World Health Organization and the United Nations regional commissions, in cooperation with other partners in the United Nations Global Road Safety Collaboration, to organize the second United Nations Global Road Safety Week to launch the Decade;

11. *Calls for* the inclusion of activities to pay attention to the needs of all road users within the Plan of Action of the Decade, in particular the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users in low-income and middle-income countries, through support for appropriate legislation and policy, infrastructure and increasing means of sustainable transport;

12. *Also calls for* joint multisectoral action to increase the proportion of countries with comprehensive legislation on five key risk factors for road traffic injuries, including seat-belt and child restraint and helmet use, drink driving and speed, from the 15 per cent identified in the 2009 *Global Status Report on Road Safety* to over 50 per cent by the end of the Decade, and encourages Member States to strengthen their enforcement of existing road safety legislation of these risk factors;

13. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen their commitment to road safety, including by observing the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on the third Sunday of November every year;

14. *Also encourages* Member States to adhere to international conventions on road safety, as well as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[3]

15. *Invites* the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration to regularly monitor global progress towards meeting the targets identified in the Plan of Action, by developing global status reports on road safety and other appropriate monitoring tools;

16. *Invites* Member States and the international community to integrate road safety into other important and relevant international agendas, such as those on development, environment and urbanization;

17. *Decides* to conduct midterm and final review conferences of progress achieved over the Decade;

18. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Global road safety crisis", and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at that session on the progress made in the attainment of the objectives of the Decade of Action.

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[3] Resolution 61/106, annex I.